

**MINUTES OF THE  
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, June 20, 2007 – 2:00 p.m. – Room W025 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair  
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro, House Chair  
Sen. Allen M. Christensen  
Sen. Fred J. Fife  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Rep. James A. Dunnigan  
Rep. Janice M. Fisher  
Rep. Julie Fisher  
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod  
Rep. Karen W. Morgan

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Dan R. Eastman  
Sen. Jon J. Greiner

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst  
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Mascaro called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Mascaro moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Christensen and Rep. Dunnigan were absent for the vote.

**2. Draft Bill, "Economic Development Incentives Modifications"**

Mr. Jason Perry, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development, reviewed the draft legislation, "Economic Development Incentives Modifications" that was distributed in the mailing packet.

**MOTION:** Rep. Mascaro moved to adopt draft legislation, "Economic Development Incentives Modifications" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Dunnigan absent for the vote.

**3. Hardship Extension in the Family Employment Program**

Mr. Hunsaker noted this issue was discussed at the May 16, 2007 committee meeting and explained that further information was requested from the Department of Workforce Services and the Social Research Institute at the University of Utah for the June committee meeting.

Ms. Helen Thatcher, Assistant Director, Operations and Support Division, DWS (Department of Workforce Services), gave a brief overview on the Family Employment Program and explained why DWS provides extensions in the Family Employment Program.

Ms. Karen Silver, Salt Lake Community Action Program, referred to the handout distributed in the supplemental mailing, "Comparison of Federal & State Laws, State Rules & Policy regarding the Family Employment Program." She reviewed the federal and state laws on "Exemptions" and "Hardship Defined." She noted that some laws, department rules, and internal policies conflict.

Ms. Thatcher responded to Ms. Silver's concerns and made clarifications on DWS's eligibility extensions to the Family Employment Program and its 36-month time limit.

Rep. Mascaro turned the chair over to Sen. Madsen.

Ms. Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson, Social Research Institute, College of Social Work, University of Utah, distributed and reviewed the handout, "Pause the Clock? Examining the Need." She reviewed the report and explained the study method, its findings, and the time limit extensions.

Mr. Hunsaker distributed a handout, "Statutes, Rules, and Policy Related to Cash Assistance Extensions."

#### **4. Public Assistance Provided through the Department of Community and Culture**

Mr. Palmer DePaulis, Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture, noted there are six divisions within the Department of Community and Culture. The Division of Housing and Community Development is the only division that has any involvement in public assistance. He explained that the Department of Community and Culture does not give assistance directly to individuals. Organizations like food banks provide this service.

Mr. Gordon Walker, Division Director, Division of Housing and Community Development, distributed a handout, "Utah Division of Housing and Community Development." He gave an overview on the services and programs provided by the Division in aiding low-income Utahns.

#### **5. Child Care Access for Working Mothers**

Rep. Janice M. Fisher requested this agenda item and made introductory comments on the issue.

Ms. Lynette Rasmussen, Director, Office of Work and Family Life, DWS, explained that the Office of Work and Family Life is studying a proposal that would provide for a two-tiered child care eligibility system. Its intent at this meeting is to provide the Committee with a progress report as requested by Sen. Greiner and Rep. Morley, Commerce and Workforce Services Appropriation Subcommittee Chairs, and Rep. Dunnigan. She distributed and reviewed the work plan on the child care access program, "Department of Workforce Services Child Care Two-Tier Eligibility." She indicated the Office of Work and Family Life will come back for the September committee meeting and present the completed report.

#### **6. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.  
Sen. Christensen was absent for the vote.

Chair Madsen adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.